

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Mitsukane Nakashima

Application No.: NEW APPLICATION

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: March 2, 2004

Art Unit: N/A

For: METAL MELTING FURNACE

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

MS Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

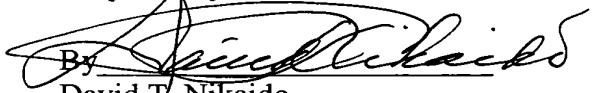
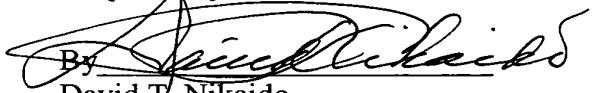
- A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98.
- As provided in 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of the documents are not being provided since they were previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in parent application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_.
- A copy of each listed document, that was cited in the International Search Report or International Preliminary Examination Report attached hereto, should have been provided to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office by the WIPO, and the provisions of 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98 should have been complied with.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date or within three months from the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), OR is being filed concurrent with filing of the Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) or the Request for Continued Examination (RCE). No fee is required (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)).
- 2. In the event any fees are due with this paper, the Commissioner is respectfully authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013.

Dated: March 2, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

  
By 

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|---------------------------------|---|----|---|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO |   |    |   | <i>Complete if Known</i> |                     |
|                                 |   |    |   | Application Number       | NEW APPLICATION     |
|                                 |   |    |   | Filing Date              | March 2, 2004       |
|                                 |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Mitsukane Nakashima |
|                                 |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | N/A                 |
|                                 |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | Not Yet Assigned    |
| Sheet                           | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | GOT-0022            |

| <b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b> |                       |  |                                |  |   |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials*           | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                              |                       | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
|                              |                       |  |                                |  |   |

| <b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b> |                       |   |                                |  |   |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials*              | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear |
|                                 |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
| BA                              |                       | JP-3225000-B2   | 05-24-2001                     | Nakashima  | T <sup>6</sup>  |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| <b>NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b> |                       |   |  |  |                |
|--|-----------------------|---|--|--|----------------|
| Examiner Initials*                     | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |  |  | T <sup>2</sup> |
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<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature |  | Date Considered |  |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|